

REMARKS

This amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated August 27, 2003, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-45 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-45 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 1, 8, 15, 23, 31, 37 and 45 have been amended as indicated in the appendix. It is believed the claim amendments overcome the Examiner's rejection and the claims should now be in patentable form. Applicant notes that claim 43 does not have an antecedent basis issue as indicated by the Examiner.

Figures 9a, 9b, and 10a have been amended to coincide with the specification. Figures 11 and 14-24 have been identified as Prior Art. Figures 12 and 13 have been identified as Related Art.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APPLN. NO.: 09/873,364

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q64831

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

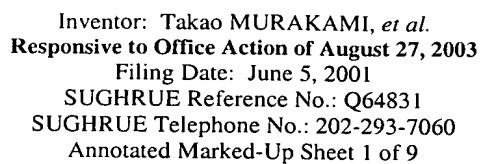
WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER


Ruthleen E. Uy
Registration No. 51,361

Date: November 26, 2003





Inventor: Takao MURAKAMI, *et al.*
Responsive to Office Action of August 27, 2003
Filing Date: June 5, 2001
SUGHRUE Reference No.: Q64831
SUGHRUE Telephone No.: 202-293-7060
Annotated Marked-Up Sheet 2 of 9

FIG. 10A

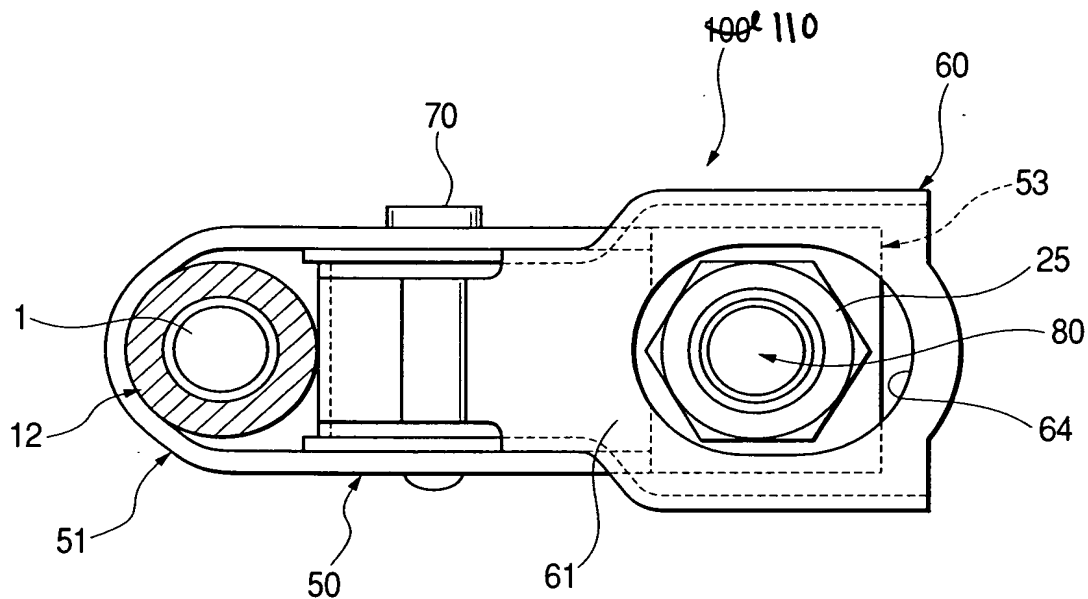
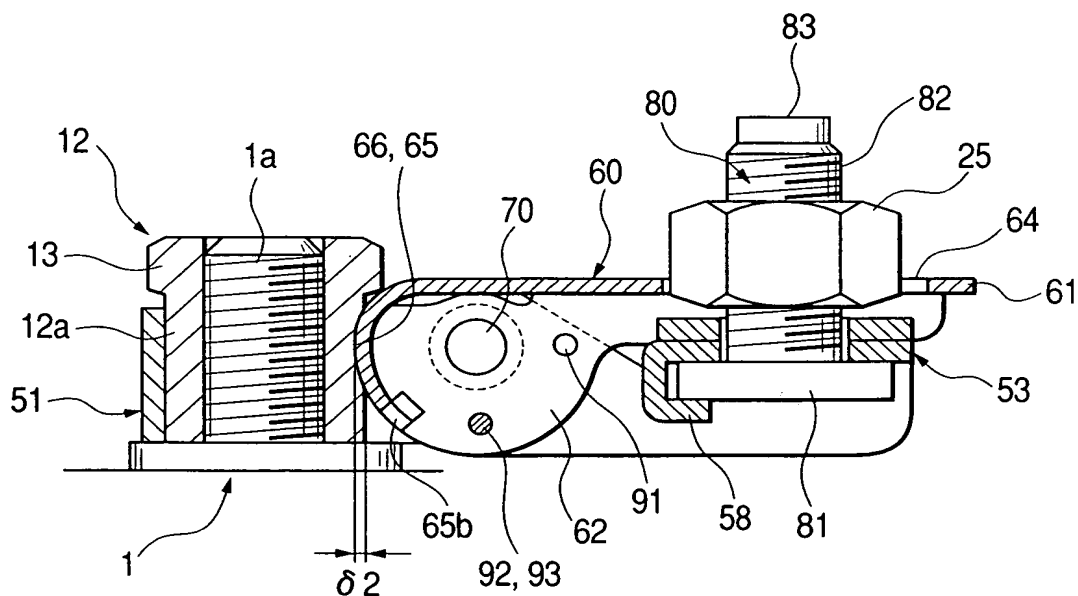
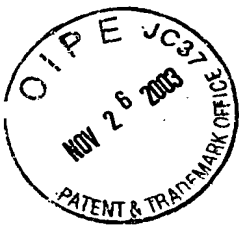


FIG. 10B





Inventor: Takao MURAKAMI, *et al.*
Responsive to Office Action of August 27, 2003
Filing Date: June 5, 2001
SUGHRUE Reference No.: Q64831
SUGHRUE Telephone No.: 202-293-7060
Annotated Marked-Up Sheet 3 of 9

FIG. 11
PRIOR ART

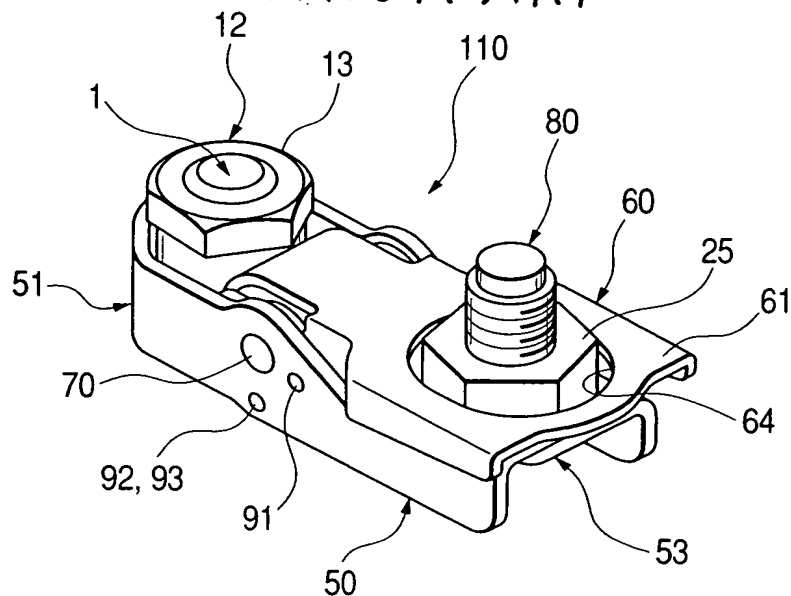


FIG. 12
RELATED ART

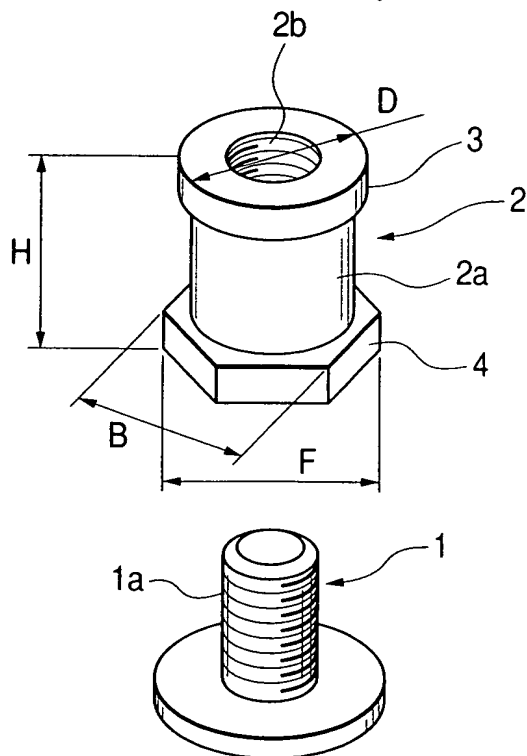
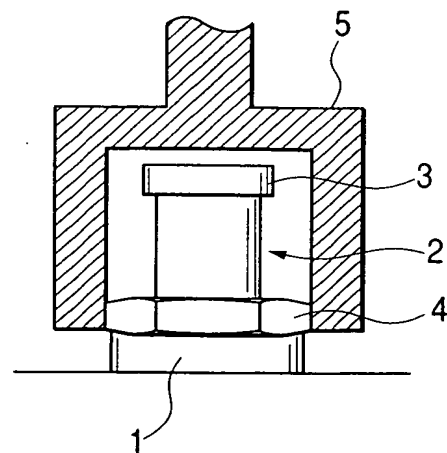
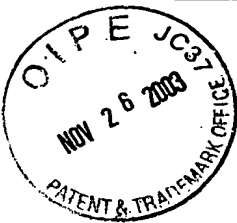


FIG. 13
RELATED ART





Inventor: Takao MURAKAMI, *et al.*
Responsive to Office Action of August 27, 2003
Filing Date: June 5, 2001
SUGHRUE Reference No.: Q64831
SUGHRUE Telephone No.: 202-293-7060
Annotated Marked-Up Sheet 4 of 9

FIG. 14
PRIOR ART

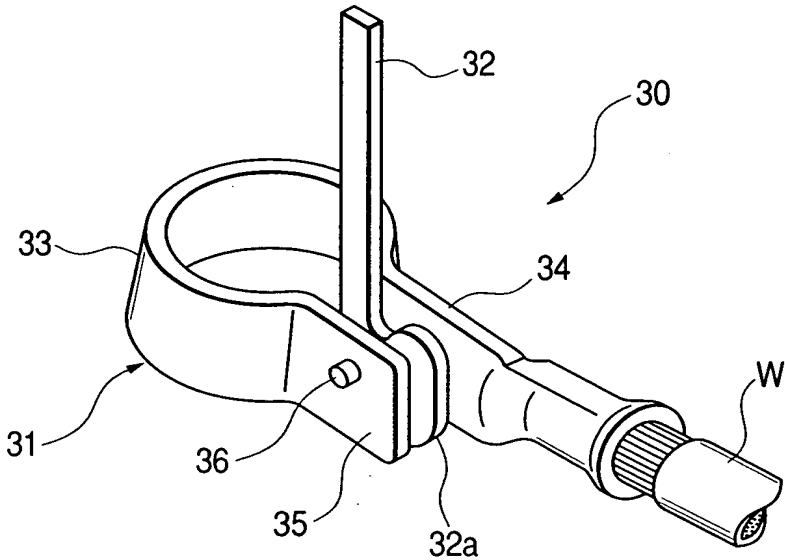
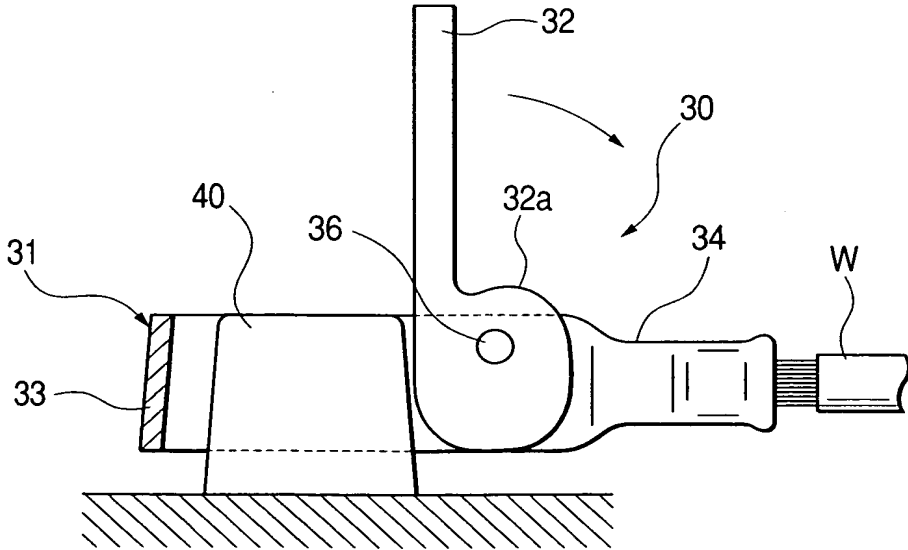
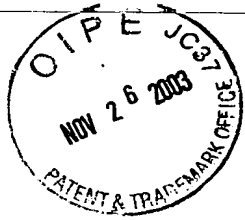


FIG. 15
PRIOR ART





Inventor: Takao MURAKAMI, *et al.*
Responsive to Office Action of August 27, 2003
Filing Date: June 5, 2001
SUGHRUE Reference No.: Q64831
SUGHRUE Telephone No.: 202-293-7060
Annotated Marked-Up Sheet 5 of 9

FIG. 16
PRIOR ART

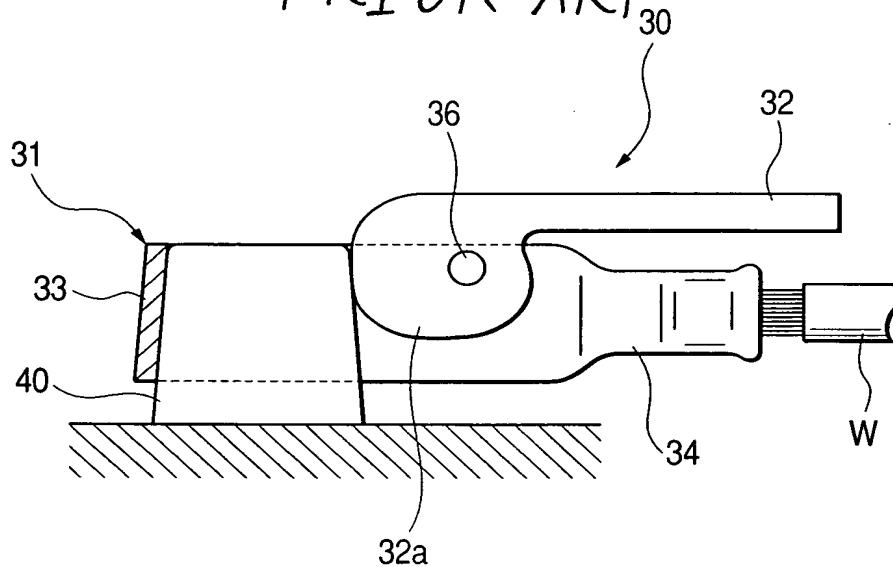
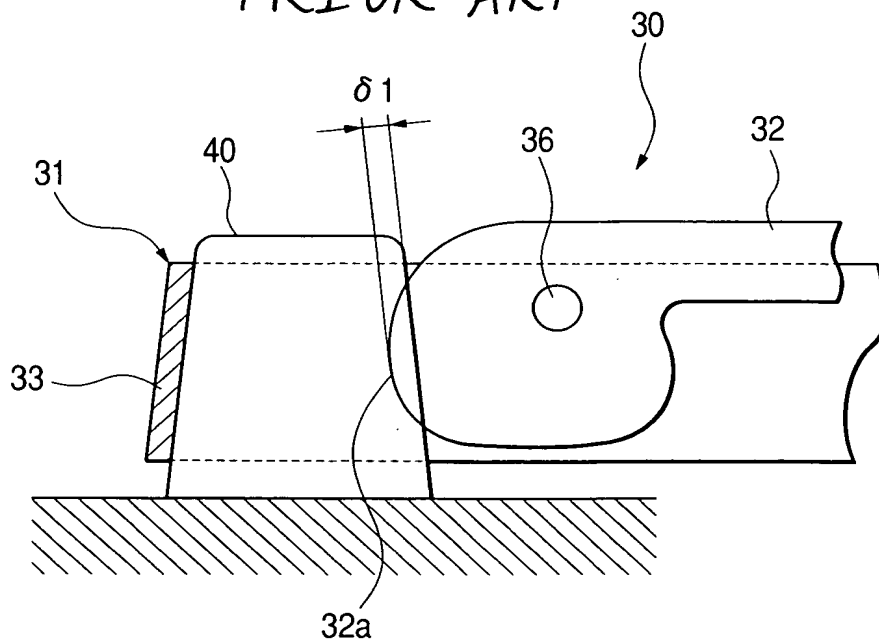


FIG. 17
PRIOR ART





Inventor: Takao MURAKAMI, *et al.*
Responsive to Office Action of August 27, 2003
Filing Date: June 5, 2001
SUGHRUE Reference No.: Q64831
SUGHRUE Telephone No.: 202-293-7060
Annotated Marked-Up Sheet 6 of 9

FIG. 18
PRIOR ART

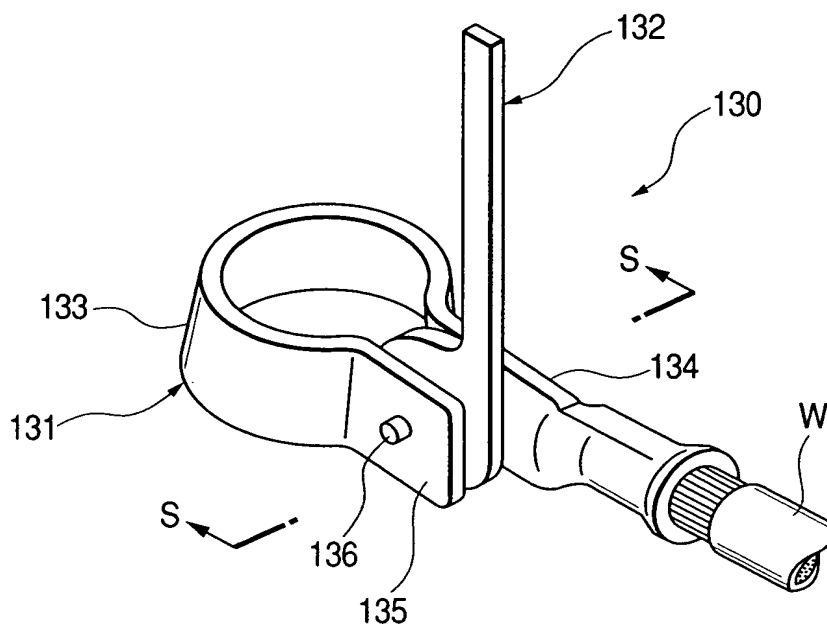
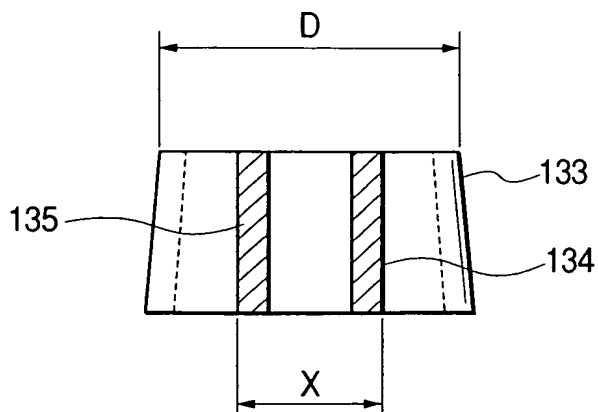
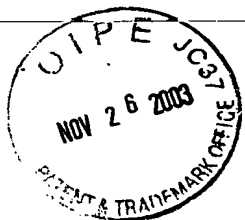


FIG. 19
PRIOR ART





Inventor: Takao MURAKAMI, *et al.*
Responsive to Office Action of August 27, 2003
Filing Date: June 5, 2001
SUGHRUE Reference No.: Q64831
SUGHRUE Telephone No.: 202-293-7060
Annotated Marked-Up Sheet 7 of 9

FIG. 20A
PRIOR ART

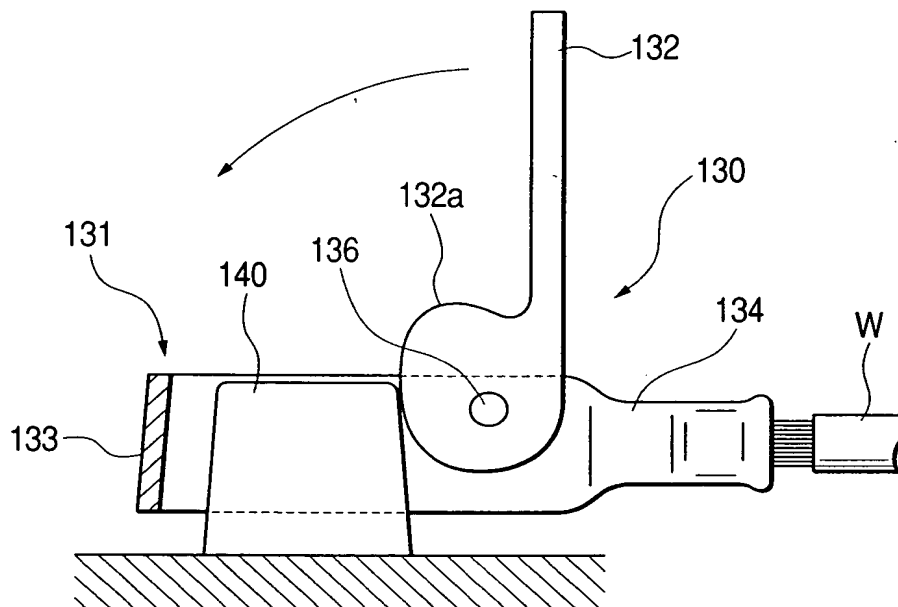
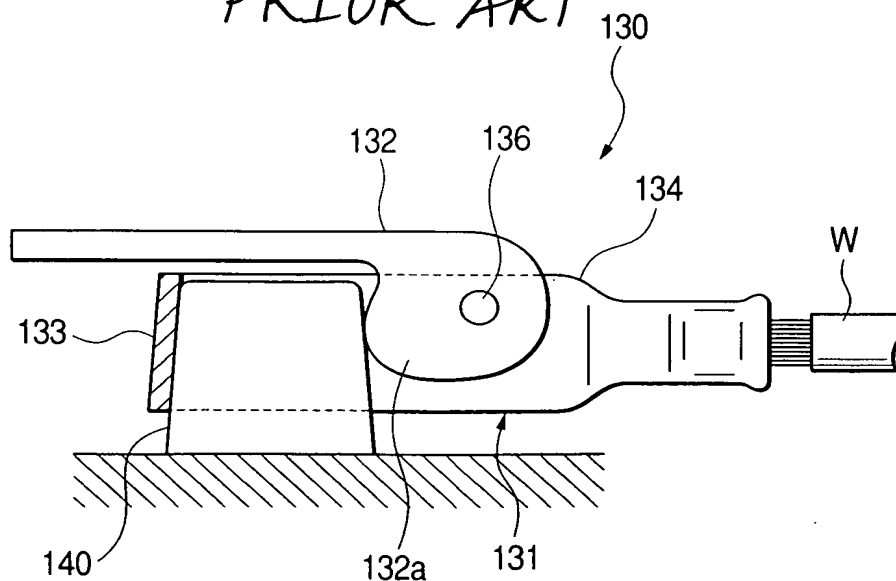


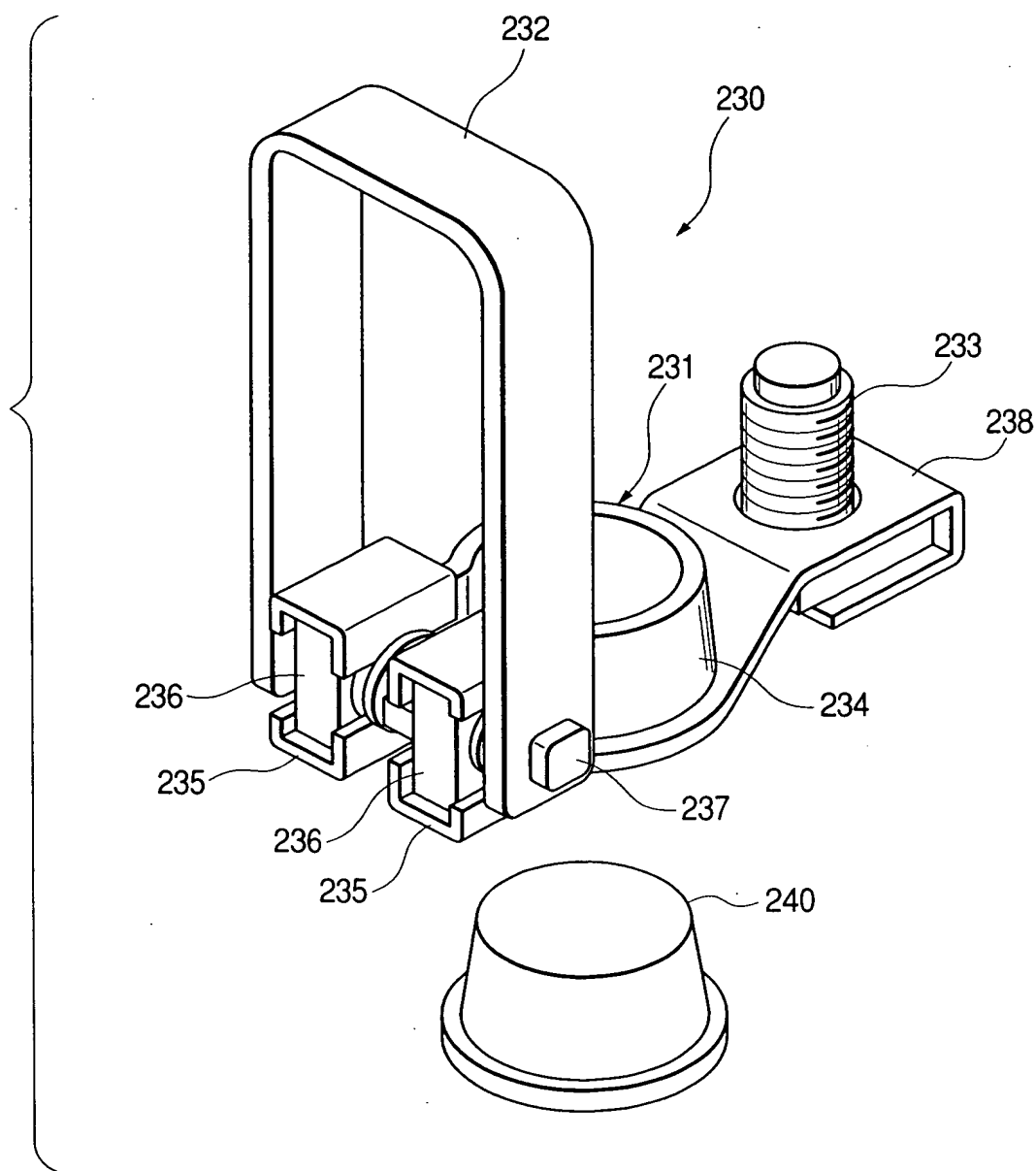
FIG. 20B
PRIOR ART





Inventor: Takao MURAKAMI, *et al.*
Responsive to Office Action of August 27, 2003
Filing Date: June 5, 2001
SUGHRUE Reference No.: Q64831
SUGHRUE Telephone No.: 202-293-7060
Annotated Marked-Up Sheet 8 of 9

FIG. 21
PRIOR ART





Inventor: Takao MURAKAMI, *et al.*
Responsive to Office Action of August 27, 2003
Filing Date: June 5, 2001
SUGHRUE Reference No.: Q64831
SUGHRUE Telephone No.: 202-293-7060
Annotated Marked-Up Sheet 9 of 9

FIG. 22
PRIOR ART

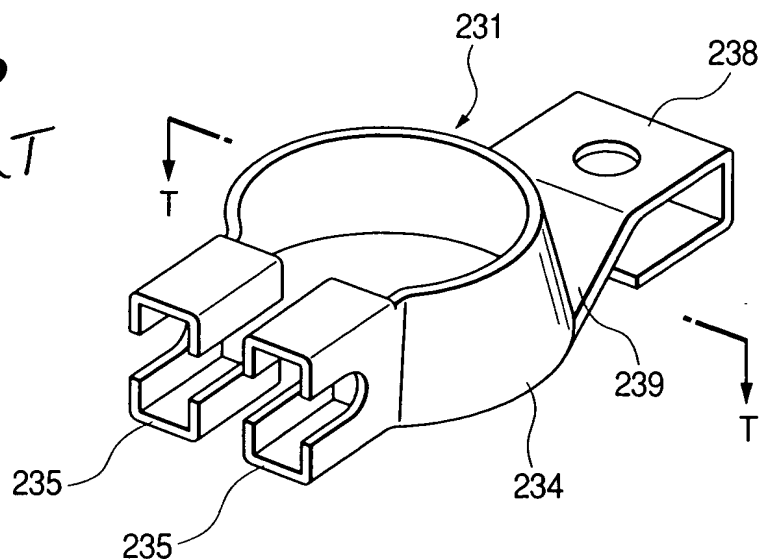


FIG. 23
PRIOR ART

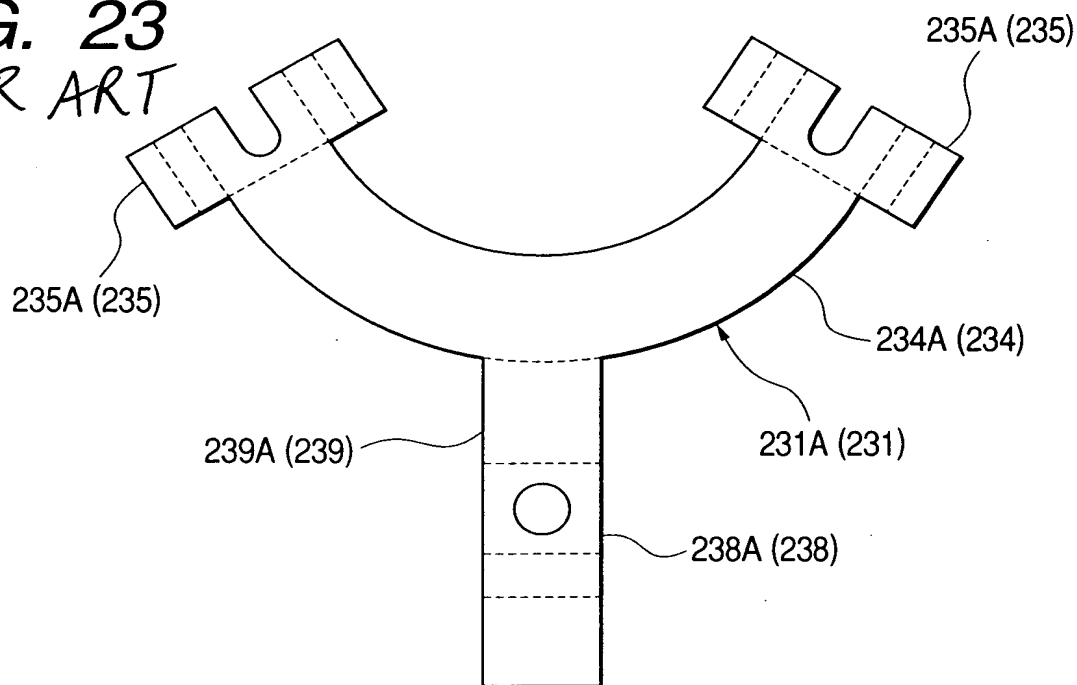


FIG. 24
PRIOR ART

